**Environments, habitats, ecosystems**

**Ecosystem** - places where living things interact with each other and with non- living components such a as soil and water.

Habitat -

**Adaptations** -features of a plant or an animal's body that makes it more fit for living in a certain environment.

**Predators -** Animals that hunt and eat each other.

**Photosynthesis**  -a process by which a plant produces its food using energy from the sun, carbon dioxide from the air, and water from the soil

**Producers** - organisms that use the Suns energy to make food. Green plants (chlorophyll) are producers.

**Consumers** - organisms that use the Suns energy indirectly by eating other animals or plants.

**Carnivores** - animals that eat other animals.

**Herbivores** - animals that eat only plants

**Omnivores** - animals that eat a mixture of plants and animals

**Food chain -**The path that energy takes as it passes from the sun to producers and consumers.

**Decomposers** - Insects, bacteria, fungi that break down dead animals and plants. Fungi and bacteria play an important role in nature. They break down the unused dead material and turn them into nutrients in the soil, which plants use to grow. They are an important part of the [food chain.](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/content/animals/kidscorner/foodchain/foodchain.htm)

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/content/animals/kidscorner/foodchain/producersconsumers.htm>